

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/033,559

Examiner

Jung Park

Applicant(s)

FURUNO, TAKAYUKI

Art Unit

2661

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☐ This communication is responsive to _____.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-14.
3. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).


* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☒ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____


CHAU NGUYEN
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2600

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

The amendment has been amended as follows

- In the specification, page 12, line 1, the "edge device 4" has been changed to -- edge device 1--.
- In the specification, page 12, line 19, the "(label learning table) 6" has been changed to --(label learning table) 12--.

Reason for Allowance

2. Claims 1-14 are allowed.
3. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Claims 1-14 are allowable over the prior art of record since the cited reference taken individually or in combination fails to particularly disclose the following italic limitations:

In claims 1 and 8, ...*a retaining module retaining a local label as a label assigned to the destination network and obtained by a method different from a label distribution method in the MPLS domain* ... and in combination with other limitations recited as specified in claims 1 and 8.

In claims 4 and 11, ...*a retaining module retaining a local label as a label corresponding to a destination network of the packet received from said communication*

device and obtained by a method different from a label distribution method in the MPLS domain, and a label corresponding to the local label and obtained by the label distribution method in the MPLS domain ...and in combination with other limitations recited as specified in claims 4 and 11.

4. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

The prior art Hama (US 20004/0202171) discloses (*in fig. 12; para.[0092] & [0093]*) a user router CPE 214 (a communication device) for transferring a packet via an MPLS domain 200 to a destination 231. The CPE receives packets from a customer (*not shown*) connected to the user router CPE through an input interface (*a receiving module*) in order to transfer to the destination 231 (*a receiving module receiving the packet that should be forwarded to the destination network*) and then transmits the received packet PKT1 to a label edge router PE 211 (*an edge device*) located in the edge of the MPLS domain 200 (*a transmitting module transmitting the received packet toward an edge device disposed at an entrance of the MPLS domain*). The CPE inserts the VID tag in the VLAN packet PKT1 so that the PE 211 as a label edge router in the MPLS domain 200 executes a forwarding process by swapping the VLAN packet PKT1 to MPLS packet PKT2.

Hama fails to disclose the retaining module retaining a local label as a label assigned to the destination network and obtained by a method different from a label distribution method in the MPLS domain. Thus, Hama fails to disclose and render obvious the above limitation as claimed.

Hama discloses (*in figure 12; para.[0093]*) a PE 211 (*an edge device*) forwarding a packet received from a CPE 214 (*a communication device*) into an MPLS domain 200. The push label in PKT2 corresponding to the VPN ID label, which is also correspond to the VID tag, is obtained by a label distribution protocol (LDP) in the MPLS domain as described in para.[0086]. The PE then transmits the packet PKT2 to the MPLS domain 200 (*transmitting the packet to the MPLS domain*).

Hama fails to disclose a retaining module retaining a local label as a label corresponding to a destination network of the packet received from said communication device and obtained by a method different from a label distribution method in the MPLS domain, and a label corresponding to the local label and obtained by the label distribution method in the MPLS domain. Thus, Hama fails to disclose and render obvious the above limitation as claimed.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

5. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Jung Park whose telephone number is 571-272-8565. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Fri during 7:10-4:40.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Chau Nguyen can be reached on 571-272-3126. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Jp
Jung Park
Patent Examiner
Art Unit 2661
February 21, 2006